

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-29 have been pending in the application and stand rejected. In accordance with the Advisory Action dated June 7, 2005, the foregoing claim amendments treat the prior filed Amendment after Final as having been entered. No new matter is introduced. In consideration of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, further examination is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang (U.S. Patent No. 5,873,263) in view of Hanson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,315,521) and further in view of Beelitz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,275 B1). In view of the foregoing claim amendments and following arguments, reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

The present application is directed to automatically identifying fluid purification equipment that is needed for a particular fluid purification task and optimizing various components to fit the required fluid purification needs. In order to have the invention system determine the right equipment, the invention system (a) uses operator's answers to identify appropriate portions of the database storing information about available fluid purification equipment components, and (b) identifies and selects data from the database that is directly related to the operator's indicated use requirements (i.e., fluid purification system in which the fluid purification equipment is to operate). To accomplish this, the present invention employs an interactive sequence of questions most applicable to the operator's indicated use requirements. The questions do not directly ask the operator to select a particular piece of equipment; rather, they ask about the uses and needs of the target surrounding fluid purification system such as, for example, asking the operator to identify the specific gas which is to be purified, whether it is a corrosive or an inert gas. (Specification, page 10, first paragraph as originally filed).

Neither Chang, Hanson or Beelitz, alone or in any combination, teach, suggest or otherwise make obvious the feature of automatically identifying fluid purification equipment optimized for particular use in a manner free of user selection from and interaction with lists of the individual available components as now claimed in base Claims 1, 28 and 29. Chang merely discloses one specific fluid purification system and does not discuss the possibility of assembling

purchase orders for fluid purification systems automatically based on the indication of the fluid purification needs.

Hanson does not teach or suggest automatically selecting the optimized fluid purification equipment. Instead Hanson discloses a method for optimizing production of one or more products within the constraints of particular production plans and their equipment. The optimization of the production of the product of Hanson has to specifically work within the limitations of the existing equipment both with respect to the capacity limitations and costs (column 1, lines 55-65). Nowhere does Hanson teach or suggest automatically selecting the equipment optimized for a particular fluid purification task.

Likewise Beelitz is concerned only with selecting computer parts that are compatible with each other and is not concerned with optimizing the use to which an assembled computer is put, as would be analogous to the system of Hanson. Briefly, Beelitz merely discloses a system of presenting a user with a list of selectable components that are compatible with a previously selected component (Beelitz, abstract lines 1-10). The question that Beelitz asks of the operator relates not to the use to which this particular hardware would be put, but the selection of the hardware itself from the list of available parts. Beelitz is in an entirely separate field of enterprise, but even if the present invention were to be in the same field as Beelitz, it would translate to a system where the user is asked not to select particular components, but to select the applications to which those components would be used, for example whether a particular computer system would be used for mathematical computations, graphic design, or computer gaming with the automated system then determining components that are not only compatible with each other but also optimally suited for the particular application. Clearly Beelitz is nowhere near that level of sophistication and does not teach or suggest having such an optimization system. Instead Beelitz provides users with lists of hardware/software program options or other options for individual user selection in direct contrast to the present invention as now claimed (see Beelitz column 18, line 60 - column 19, line 3).

The following chart further illustrates the marked distinction between (1) the present invention automatically identifying a fluid purification equipment in its entirety, based on a set of defining information regarding the particular fluid purification system (fluid purification needs/requirements) as indicated by the operator/user without operator/user selection of

individual fluid purification equipment components and (2) the user selection based system of Beelitz (alone or in any combination with Chang and Hanson).

	<u>Beelitz System</u> ("Target System" is computer being custom built/ordered)	<u>Claimed Invention of Instant Application</u> ("Target System" is fluid purification equipment)
<u>Step 1</u> Screen initially displays	First list of components for forming target system	First set of questions regarding operating parameters of overall environment (surrounding fluid purification system) in which target system is to operate
<u>Step 2</u> User inputs	Selection of one component (i.e., part) for target system from displayed list (based on user's knowledge to determine one listed component is desirable over all other listed components).	Answers to questions regarding operating parameters/environment surrounding target system. NOT indicating any specific part/ component of the target system.
<u>Step 3</u> System next displays	Second list of components as a function of user selected component in Step 2 (i.e., components, for target system, that are compatible with user selected component) but not optimized for user's intended purpose/use of target system which is in user's thought process and not in Beelitz system logic in determining what subset of components to display in second list.	Second set of information gathering questions based on user's answers in Step 2. Second set of questions are not specific component selections for target system for user to ponder.
<u>Step 4</u> User next inputs	Selection of one component for target system from displayed second list, . . etc. . repeat interactions of Steps 3, 4 with cumulative effect after each user selection made.	Iterations of Steps 2 and 3 (no user selected components for target system made throughout these steps)

<p><u>Step N</u></p> <p>End result</p>	<p>Tally of user selected components as guided by Beelitz system compatibility-wise but based on user's judgment and knowledge on applicability for intended use.</p>	<p>Invention system uses answers to environmental parameters and displays a target system (fluid purification system) automatically determined in total by the invention system to be of optimized use in surrounding fluid purification system which was piecewise described by user in answering questions in prior steps.</p>
--	---	--

Thus Beelitz does not teach or suggest automatically identifying components of a computer system in its entirety using defining information regarding the operating environment in which the computer system is intended to operate in a manner free of user selection from and interaction with lists of individual components. In contrast, the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 28 and 29 as now amended uses a set of defining information regarding a particular fluid purification system, such as operating parameters of the system, to automatically identify a resulting set of components for a fluid purification equipment package that satisfies the operating parameters of a particular fluid purification in which the equipment package is intended to operate. In other words, the invention system, as opposed to the user, selects which components are to be a part of the overall fluid purification equipment.

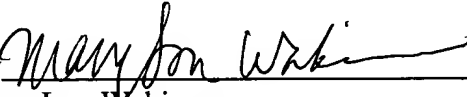
Neither Chang nor Hanson rectify the failing of Beelitz to teach a system for automatically identifying an entire fluid purification equipment including selecting its components appropriate for a particular use in fluid purification systems. Therefore, independent Claims 1, 28 and 29 are not obvious in view of the combination of Chang, Hanson and Beelitz and the § 103 rejection should be withdrawn. Dependent Claims 3-27 depend on independent Claim 1 as now amended and are not obvious in view of the combination of Chang, Hanson and Beelitz for at least the same reasons above. Withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of Claims 1 and 3-29 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims (Claims 1 and 3-29) are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By 

Mary Lou Wakimura

Registration No. 31,804

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Dated: 